

From: Bob Harler
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/12/02 11:08am
Subject: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

6959 South Highway 76

Russell Springs, KY 42642

January 11, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

U.S. Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am writing to you in support of Microsoft regarding the antitrust settlement.

Microsoft did not deserve to be the target of antitrust litigation. They reached their point of market dominance solely due to the superiority of their product. Other vendors of software could not adequately compete with a product line that had been so overwhelmingly welcomed by the world's computer users. Superior product development is what placed Microsoft at the pinnacle of market dominance, not illegal marketing.

That being said, I do agree with steps being taken to ensure illegal marketing does not take place. But punishing Microsoft for producing a superior product smacks of allowing their whiny competitors to use the U.S. legal system to enhance their own market position. That practice should be considered as unfair and illegal as the alleged Microsoft practices.

I appreciate your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Harler